

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 SANTIA 01132 192336 Z

62

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12

AID-20 PC-04 SY-07 NIC-01 RSR-01 /115 W

----- 094508

R 192135 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3770

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SANTIAGO 1132

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: CI, PINT, PINS

SUBJECT: THREE INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. (A) SHOOTOUT IN SANTIAGO SUBURB OF LA REINA MAR 16 LEFT TWO PDC YOUTHS DEAD. ALTHOUGH THERE ARE SHARPLY CONFLICTING VERSIONS OF INCIDENT, PDC BLAMED GOVT OFFICIALS AND THREATENED TO IMPEACH SANTIAGO INTENDENTE JAIME FAIVOVICH. (B) FIVE ALLEGED EXTREME LEFTISTS LED BY PS MEMBER BROUGHT TO SANTIAGO LAST WEEK AFTER HAVING BEEN ARRESTED FOR ROBBERY OF EXPLOSIVES FROM PROVINCIAL ARSENAL, WHILE (C) ARMED GROUP CALLING ITSELF " REVOLUTIONARY PEOPLE' S ARMY" BRIEFLY TOOK OVER MOVIE THEATER MAR 18 IN UPPER-CLASS SANTIAGO NEIGHBORHOOD AND BROADCAST REVOLUTIONARY PROPAGANDA. END SUMMARY.

2. SHOOTOUT EARLY MORNING MAR 16 IN LA REINA SUBURB OF SANTIAGO LEFT TWO YOUNG PDC MEMBERS DEAD. OPPOSITION VERSION IS THAT ARMED SLUM- DWELLERS, LED BY OFFICIALS OF GOVT' S URBAN IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION (CORMU), INVADED VACANT LOT ADJOINING THEIR SETTLEMENT AND FIRED MACHINE GUN INTO TENT WHERE YOUTHS, WHO WERE THERE TO GUARD AGAINST JUST SUCH A TOMA, WERE SLEEPING. PRO- GOVT MEDIA REPORTED DIAMETRICALLY OPPOSITE STORY, CLAMING YOUTHS INVADED SLUM SETTLEMENT IN ATTEMPT TO OUST SETTLERS AND WERE KILLED BY BULLETS FROM THEIR OWN SIDE AS THEY BEAT HASTY RETREAT FROM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 SANTIA 01132 192336 Z

ENRAGED POBLADORES. PDC ISSUED ANGRY STATEMENT BLAMING SANTIAGO INTENDENTE JAIME FAIVOVICH FOR FAILING TO PREVENT VIOLENCE AND THREATENING POSSIBLE IMPEACHMENT ACTION AGAINST HIM IN CONGRESS. STATEMENT ALSO DEMANDED ALLENDE TAKE "DEFINITIVE" ACTION AGAINST ARMED EXTREMIST GROUPS AND GOVT OFFICIALS WHO FOMENT VIOLENCE. DURING FUNERAL OF ONE YOUTH MAR 17, ATTENDED BY FREI AND OTHER PDC DIGNITARIES, LOCAL OFFICE OF SOCIALIST PARTY (PS) WAS STONED AND HEAVILY DAMAGED BY PDC MARCHERS WHO, IN TURN, CLAIMED PS MEMBERS HAD INITIATED INCIDENT. BOMB EXPLODED AT A DOWN-TOWN CORMU OFFICE EVENING MAR 18 WITH NO CASUALTIES REPORTED.

3. FIVE PERSONS, LABELED LEFT- WING EXTREMISTS BY OPPOSITION PRESS, WERE BROUGHT TO SANTIAGO IN MILITARY CUSTODY LAST WEEK. GROUP WAS ARRESTED MAR 3 AFTER ROBBERY OF EXPLOSIVES ARSENAL NEAR PORT OF SAN ANTONIO IN SANTIAGO PROVINCE. ACCORDING TO THESE REPORTS, GROUP HAD STOLEN ENOUGH DYNAMITE AND OTHER SUPPLIES " TO BLOW UP ALL OF SANTIAGO," AND INTENDED TO USE THE EXPLOSIVES TO CAUSE TURMOIL ON EVE OF CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS. GROUP WAS CAUGHT ONLY WHEN ONE GOVT TRUCK USED FOR ROBBERY OVERTURNED DURING ESCAPE. LEADER OF GROUP ALLEGEDLY IS O' HIGGINS PALMA RUZ, CIVIL ENGINEER AND CHIEF OF CONSTRUCTION OPERATIONS IN MINHOUSING , WHO IS REPORTEDLY PS MEMBER. ACCORDING TO OPPOSITION PRESS, PALMA WAS ALSO INVOLVED IN JAN 30 WORKERS DEMONSTRATION AGAINST GOVT S " SOCIAL AREA" BILL (SANTIAGO 432) AND FEB 23 TEMPORARY SEIZURE OF AGENCIAS GRAHAM, ONE OF GOVT WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTION AGENCIES. INCIDENT WAS GENERALLY OVERLOOKED IN EXCITEMENT OF MAR 4 ELECTIONS AND AFTERMATH.

4. ARMED GROUP CALLING ITSELF " REVOLUTIONARY PEOPLE'S ARMY" (EJERCITO REVOLUCIONARIO DEL PUEBLO- ERP) BRIEFLY TOOK OVER MOVIE HOUSE IN PROVIDENCIA RESIDENTIAL AREA EVENING MAR 18. GROUP REPORTEDLY THREATENED PROJECTIONIST WITH MACHINE GUN AND GRENADE, FORCED HIM TO SHOW " REVOLUTIONARY" PROPAGANDA ACCOMPANIED BY STRAINS OF SOCIALIST INTERNATIONALE ON THEATRE P. A. SYSTEM, THEN DISTRIBUTED LEAFLETS DENOUNCING " FASCIST BOURGEOISIE" AS THEY MADE THEIR SUCCESSFUL ESCAPE.

5. COMMENT: PS LEFT- WINGERS AND OTHER EXTREMISTS
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 SANTIA 01132 192336 Z

HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN FAIR NUMBER OF INCIDENTS OVER PAST

YEAR. IT IS TOO EARLY TO TELL WHETHER THESE INCIDENTS
FORESHADOW MORE VIOLENCE IN AFTERMATH OF MAR 4 ELECTION,
BUT THEY ARE SUBJECT OF CONSIDERABLE COMMENT. ERP HAD
NOT PREVIOUSLY SURFACED.
DAVIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SANTIA01132
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SANTIAGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730334/aaaaicro.tel
Line Count: 124
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16-Jan-2002 by martinjw>; APPROVED <07 FEB 2002 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> wfs 971217
Subject: THREE INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE
TAGS: PINS, PINT, CI
To: ARA
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005